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Celebrity pg 30

Dental hygiene involves sweater for Jess

Man facing voyeurism charges

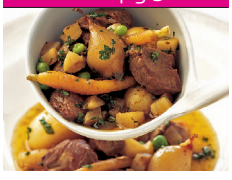
CRIME Police have pressed charges after two women said they were followed by a man who snapped images of them below the belt.

On Feb. 12, a woman exited the subway at Sheppard Avenue, where a man followed her up an escalator and used his phone to take a picture up her skirt. Last Thursday, another woman told police a man followed her from the Finch Street bus terminal and used his phone to take a video of her lower body.

Dawson Trotman, 32, is charged with two counts of voyeurism.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Take Five pg 31



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Parade

T.O. goes green

VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Paschal Brogan, 77, walks yesterday during the 23rd annual Toronto St. Patrick's Day Parade. As many as 2,000 people took part in this year's parade. St. Patrick's Day is Wednesday.

Story of survival

Death toll lower than first thought in B.C. avalanche

What many feared would be one of the worst death tolls ever in the B.C. backcountry appears increasingly to be an almost miraculous story of survival.

RCMP say they have accounted for all those known to have been on a remote B.C. mountain when a deadly avalanche roared down upon them.

Two were killed in the slide on Boulder Mountain, in the Monashee Mountains near Revelstoke, B.C., but as the day wore on yesterday, RCMP said they were increasingly optimistic the death toll would not be as bad as believed.

After searching for abandoned vehicles and canvassing area hotels, Cpl. Dan Moskaluk said there was nobody the RCMP knew of left unaccounted for, and no new reports of missing people.

"All the persons we had on these lists of names have been accounted for and have been checked off the lists," Moskaluk told reporters.

"We're in a far different situation than we were just over 24 hours ago with a report of over 200 people being possibly affected by this slide. We're very fortunate, albeit though we do have two fatalities as a result of this incident."

There were fears the death toll could be in the dozens, and survivors have described a scene of chaos after the slide.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 6

'High-marking'

• A wall of snow washed down over a group of about 200 snowmobilers gathered for the annual Big Iron Shoot-Out, triggered by a small group "high-marking" on the mountain — a competition to see who could ride the furthest, leaving the highest mark.

Controversial shelter now slated to open in May

CENTRE A pricey homeless shelter in the Entertainment District is now expected to be completed at the end of May barring any more construction delays.

The original $5-million price tag for the new Peter Street shelter has doubled, while construction delays pushed back its opening.

Late last year, city staff suggested the controversial shelter, in a refurbished former nightclub, would launch in March.

The shelter will offer homeless people what most don't: Actual help in getting a permanent home. The goal at 129 Peter St. will be to get people "stabilized" and on to a real home. It's hoped that feature will dissipate controversy over the facility's location and spiralling costs.

The facility has been criticized from the start, with wails of protest from club operators in the area who complained the centre would deter their youth-oriented clientele.

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Local

Next Gen political fundraising

Supporters of Ontario Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak, left, say he has become the first Canadian politician to launch an iPhone application. The free download can transmit policy positions, videos, photos, news, information on coming events — and ask for your donation. While Hudak organizers haven't used the fundraising or survey capacities of the application yet, they say these tools were a factor in setting up the program. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Tomorrow's Metro

Comment Lawrence Martin gives us his take on the Canadian political scene.

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Survivors of a deadly weekend avalanche in B.C. recount their ordeal at **metronews.ca/canada**

Immigration Guidy Mamann on the poor performance of Ottawa's new 'Canadian Experience Class' at **metronews.ca/immigration**

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Food carts still stymied by red tape

Some vendors in pilot project hoping change of location leads to more money

Nancy Senawong, "the one success story" from the debut summer of Toronto's troubled street food program, will return to Mel Lastman Square a virtual slave to her hulking $30,000 cart.

Like many of the eight "a la Cart" vendors, she is heading back out at least in part because she needs to pay off debts racked up behind the grill last summer, and doubts they will be gone by the end of the three-year pilot project.

"Now I pay almost $600 a month for the loan I got for the cart — 14 per cent over three years," says Senawong, a vivacious entrepreneur who will use assistants to juggle cart duties with her family's Ellesmere Road restaurant Thai Angels.

The cart is a sore point, but so is red tape that still chafes, despite rules being relaxed considerably last fall.

That's when control of a la Cart — created to give Torontonians healthy ethnic alternatives to hot dogs — was transferred to the city's economic development department from health.

Most of the rents were cut. New locations are being offered, including ones as far from the city core as Yonge Street and Finch Avenue, where the Korean food vendor, who did little business at Yonge and Eglinton Avenue last summer, hopes to tap into the Korean-Canadian community.

Economic development, they say, is trying to help them but can't change the rules.

Councillor John Filion, the health board chair who championed a la Cart, calls Senawong the program's "one success story" from 2009, noting her entrepreneurial flourishes.

He denies the vendors were over-regulated and blames their troubles on last summer's pedestrian-zapping rainfall, city workers' strike and, in some cases, inexperience.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Nancy Senawong, will return to Mel Lastman Square selling Thai food this summer. She's held up as the one vendor success story, but she says a main reason she's returning is that last summer left her $35K in debt and she has to try to pay it off. Like many of the vendors she puts the blame largely on a city requirement that the vendors buy big, poorly designed $30K carts. Also the cart has to be transported so she bought a trailer that fits the massive cart and truck to pull the trailer.

Walking to build a new life

ORGANIZATION After losing her right leg in a car crash four years ago, Brenda Mascoll was told she would never walk again.

She refused to accept this grim prognosis, however, and Mascoll made three goals for her recovery: To walk, to drive, and to wear stiletto heels again.

So far, the determined 37-year-old has achieved the first two. And to remind herself of her final milestone, Mascoll had an image of her favourite boots tattooed on her left foot — a pair of black, knee-high stilettos, purchased at a store on Weston Road.

Brenda Mascoll

Yesterday, Mascoll couldn't wear her beloved stilettos, but she was more than content to slip on some white sneakers for the Achilles Canada 5K Run/Walk, in which she was participating for the second year. Achilles Canada is a non-profit organization that gives people with disabilities a chance to enjoy the physical, psychological and communal benefits of running.

Mascoll had hoped to walk the entire 5-kilometre stretch, but the day's wet, blustery weather made it too painful to wear her prosthetic. So she crossed the finish line in her wheelchair, with her friends, family and onlookers cheering her on. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Housing boom on railway lands

CASH It turns out the recession has been a boon to Toronto's affordable housing supply.

In recent years, condo towers have sprouted like dandelions on the old railway lands surrounding the CN Tower, but it took an injection of cash from the federal and provincial governments' economic stimulus package to finally get construction going on affordable rental buildings.

Work began in January on a 422-unit 40-storey rental tower on land transferred to the Toronto Community Housing Corporation by the city. The apartments will rent at 80 per cent of market rates.

The land was deeded to the city in 1994, when the CNR sold the railway yards.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Police raid Etobicoke pub

Toronto police have laid a slew of weapons charges after finding a loaded gun in a Dominic's Pub early yesterday. Dmytro Matviyenko, 23, of Toronto is facing multiple firearm-related charges. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Parents vote down water vending machine at school

EDUCATION Fern Avenue elementary won't be getting a water vending machine after all, and now parents — with the help of the Council of Canadians — say they'll fight to stop the Toronto board from putting any more in its schools.

Right now, the only water refill vending machine — which charges 50 cents for water and $1 for watered-down juice — is at Parkdale Collegiate. It was installed last week as part of a pilot project that was to include Fern Ave., and meant to help eliminate the use of plastic water bottles and encourage the use of reusable water bottles, as well as generate revenue.

However, a handful of Fern parents were up in arms about the move, saying the board has no business introducing a vending machine to their school to sell chilled, filtered tap water or any sugary drink, even if it is naturally flavoured.

At a school council meeting Thursday night, parents voted down the move. Some 94 have also signed a petition opposing the vending machine.

"The bottled water industry and the water privatization industry have been looking at other ways to sell water" now that school boards and municipalities are looking to be environmentally responsible, said Mark Calzavara, the Council of Canadians' organizer for Ontario, who attended the meeting.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

LISTERIA The latest meat recall due to concerns over listeria contamination has prompted a proposed class action. Merchant Law Group says it is suing Siena Foods Ltd. on behalf of anyone who bought or ate the meat in question. The law firm says Siena was "negligent" in producing contaminated meat. The suit is looking for financial compensation, regardless of whether illness results.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rainy day people

Residents find addresses don't always live up to their name

Every day's a rainy day for Leonora Benjamin. And that's just fine with the Pickering resident who's lived under the threat of inclement weather for 23 years.

The residents of Rainy Day Drive, as it turns out, are blessed with just as much blue sky as the folks of, say, Sunshine Street in Toronto. And they're a cheery bunch to boot.

"It's a great neighbourhood. Everyone looks out for each other," says Benjamin, whose family was among the first in the subdivision where addresses were inspired by Gordon Lightfoot songs.

There was a time when roads and royalty were the moniker match of choice. Hence, the dozens of Kings and Queens, Georges and Victorias that clutter GTA maps. Canada's historical figures were similarly honoured. But more recently, municipal policies have turned street-naming into an art that walks a fine line between originality and practicality. If the tag has a nice ring to it, so much the better — unless it's Cowbell Cr.

That idea hit a dead end with roads scholars in Brampton's planning department over concerns about offending South Asians who consider the cow a sacred animal, says spokesperson Gordon Smith.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CAROLA VYHNAK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Despite her address on Rainy Day Drive, Pickering resident Leonora Benjamin enjoys just as much blue sky as everyone else.

Tories ignoring taxpayer-funded crime research

JUSTICE The federal Justice Department pays to help publicize leading criminal justice research that frequently discredits the Conservative government's "tough-on-crime" agenda.

And while the goal of the government-funded project is to "focus … on research that is policy relevant," and provide a "general education" to those interested in criminal justice policy, the Harper government doesn't appear to be listening.

The most recent issue of Criminological Highlights published last month by the University of Toronto's Centre of Criminology, with federal assistance, blows gaping holes in several of Justice Minister Rob Nicholson's most cherished anti-crime measures.

It also provides a very timely reminder of why Canada's ongoing move toward more mandatory minimum sentences can lead to the kind of plea bargain arrangement that's created a storm of public outrage around former Conservative stalwart Rahim Jaffer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Drive to get Chinese stem cell donors

HEATHER BUCHAN
for Metro Toronto

Fifteen years passed from the day in 1989 when Billy Cheung registered as a stem cell donor, to the day his phone rang in 2004, and he was told he was a match for a bone marrow patient.

"It's very hard to describe the feeling when you know you have helped save someone's life," Cheung said at a news conference Friday to announce a new drive in the fight against blood cancers.

"It's very hard to describe the feeling when you know you have helped save someone's life."
Billy Cheung, stem cell donor

On March 27, the National Chinese Stem Cell Initiative and One Match Stem Cell and Marrow Network are launching the first ever national Chinese stem cell drive in Toronto and Vancouver in an effort to get more Chinese Canadians to enter Canada's stem cell database as donors.

According to One Match, the current donor base doesn't reflect Canada's ethnic diversity, and since a person's best chance of finding a blood or stem cell donor match is within their own ethnic group, there is an urgent need to broaden the national database.

Dr. John Doyle, head of blood and marrow transplant at The Hospital for Sick Children, echoed the need for more donors.

"We get back initial reports and we see that there's so few donors, so few possibilities, that one crucial element isn't going to work for this child, the time isn't going to be there that they need."

Currently, about 800 people are awaiting stem cells in Canada. These are people suffering from various blood cancers including leukemia, lymphoma and multiple myeloma — all of which involve uncontrolled growth of abnormal white blood cells, mainly in the blood, spleen, bone marrow and lymph nodes.

Jason Cheung, a 23-year-old York University physics student, is one of these people. He is battling acute myeloid leukemia, which a marrow transplant could cure. But he hasn't found a donor match. Cheung was supposed to speak at the press conference, but was admitted to a Toronto intensive care unit Wednesday.

According to One Match, fewer than 30 per cent of patients in need of stem cells are able to find a match within their immediate family. And that's when they turn to donor banks and the generosity of strangers to save their life.

For more information, go to chinesestemcell.ca or onematch.ca.

GO Transit cancels off-peak trains, cuts some bus routes

TRANSIT For the first time in 40 years GO Transit is overhauling its schedules to an extent that virtually all train riders and many bus riders will be affected.

The changes, effective April 3, are being made to reflect real trip times. Riders are advised to check their route schedules at GO Transit's website.

About 40 train trips will be adjusted by one to eight minutes in response to GO's ridership growth, which has increased to about 55 million passengers from about 36 million annually in 1998.

The changes are good news for some eastern commuters. They'll make room for an additional westbound trip on the Lakeshore East line, departing Oshawa at 6:47 a.m. and making all stops to Pickering, then running express to Union Station.

But six off-peak trains on the Georgetown corridor are being cancelled temporarily. They will be replaced by 22 buses.

To make buses available for the Georgetown run, some routes are being eliminated, including the Newmarket bus to York University and the 62B Newmarket run to York Mills. GO will no longer offer buses from the Mississauga City Centre to the airport. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Montreal police seeking cop-car vandals

Police are asking for help from the public to find vandals responsible for thousands of dollars in damage at a Montreal police station. Eleven patrol cars were trashed early Saturday after 15 to 20 people entered the building's parking lot, breaking car windows, destroying on-board computers and damaging some of the bodywork, police said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Councillors' expenses to be posted?

Out-of-town travel expenses of councillors and city staff in Peterborough, Ont., could soon be posted on the city's website. Of the 30 municipalities surveyed by Peterborough staff, none post, or have plans to post, such expenses online. If Peterborough goes ahead with the idea, it's expected only expenses that cost more than $200 will be posted on the web. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Man killed after leap from truck in parade

MONTREAL A 19-year-old man was killed during Montreal's St. Patrick's parade after jumping from a flatbed truck.

The accident occurred yesterday afternoon along the parade route that ran down the city's main street.

Montreal police spokesman Daniel Lacoursiere says the victim jumped from the truck when it stopped during the parade.

The victim lost his footing and was crushed under the wheels when the vehicle began moving once again.

The accident is currently under investigation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Survivor recalls avalanche

Snowmobiler, son among dozens blindsided by snow in B.C.

In the seconds before a wall of snow swept over them, George Hall turned, wrapped his arms around his 13-year-old son as tightly as he could and hugged him.

The two tumbled together down the side of Boulder Mountain, tossed like rag dolls by the concrete force of the avalanche alongside whirling snowmobiles and dozens of other riders who, like them, were blindsided by the rushing wave.

Hall was knocked unconscious, coming to as rescuers frantically dug him free to see his son was still by his side.

"All I remember is running and hollering at my kid and I grabbed him and that's when the snow hit us and took us down the mountain," Hall said yesterday, the day after the deadly avalanche near Revelstoke, B.C.

Hall, who came up from Montana for the annual Big Iron Shoot-Out, was left with a huge gash in the back of his head, while his son was banged and bruised but otherwise OK.

Two men died in the avalanche, but RCMP were increasingly optimistic yesterday that all of the people known to have been up the mountain had been accounted for. No names were released for the deceased.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Search and Rescue workers prepare to head out yesterday to the area where a large avalanche struck, killing at least two people near Revelstoke, B.C.

"All I remember is running and hollering at my kid."
George Hall, survivor

News in brief

OPIUM POPPY Scientists at the University of Calgary say they have unlocked one of the genetic secrets of the opium poppy — a discovery that could open the door to cheaper and more readily available pain relief. Biological sciences professor Peter Facchini said they have traced the unique genes that allow the opium poppy to make codeine and morphine. Their work has been published in the online edition of the journal Nature Chemical Biology.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Walkerton mayor targets newspaper owner

Walkerton Mayor Charlie Bagnato is trying to get a peace bond slapped on area newspaper owner Brian Raper over articles critical of the mayor. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Suspect in court

Two women found dead near Belleville

The teen suspect in the slayings of a Belleville mother and daughter appeared in court via video link Saturday.

Sgt. Kristine Rae said Dean Brown, 18, appeared Saturday morning and was formally charged with two counts of first-degree murder and one count of attempted murder.

He was remanded into custody and will appear again in a Belleville court today.

A 46-year-old woman and her 14-year-old daughter were found dead Friday at their family home in the small eastern Ontario community of Mountain View.

The victims have been identified as Tracy Hannah and her daughter Whitney, and post-mortems are scheduled for today at the coroner's office in Toronto.

An 18-year-old female family member was airlifted to hospital in Kingston and remains in stable condition.

The suspect, apparently known to the family although not a member, was arrested following a chase at about 9:30 a.m. Friday in nearby Trenton, police said.

Police said the victims were found when they responded to a 911 call about a shooting at a home on Valley Road at around 6 a.m.

"It's a very quiet street — this is very out of character for this area," said Jen Snider, who lives down the street. "It's very scary. It's a quiet neighbourhood and we all know everybody." THE CANADIAN PRESS

COLE BURSTON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A Prince Edward County OPP officer leaves a crime scene Saturday in Mountain View. Flowers and signs of support were placed at a home where two women were shot dead Friday morning and another woman was wounded.

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Trio face weapon, drug-related charges in Ottawa

Three people are facing a slew of charges after police executed a search warrant in Ottawa on Friday. Eighteen-year-old Sean Lavigne, 18-year-old Michael Lavigne and 42-year-old Suzanne Lavigne were charged with weapon and drug-related offences. THE CANADIAN PRESS

No new cash for research group

Scientists concerned over loss of climate-focused foundation

When government funding for a foundation dedicated to climate research dries up at the end of the year, scientists say the aftershocks of its departure will be felt not only in Canada but by researchers around the globe.

The 2010 federal budget, unveiled this month, offered no new cash to the decade-old Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmospheric Sciences, a group that has been financing research on everything from melting glaciers to drought on the Prairies to the thawing permafrost.

The disappearance of a foundation that has made contributions to global initiatives on climate change is worrying for some in the international scientific community.

"There have been many countries that I think have been key players and I've always looked at Canada as being one of them," said Keith Seitter, executive director of the American Meteorological Society. "It's disheartening to hear that there may be efforts there to actually pull back on some of them."

Through the foundation's networks, Canadian scientists have contributed to the World Climate Research Programme and the North American Carbon Program, as well as worked on reports published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Funding

- Environment Minister Jim Prentice's office says the government remains committed to basic climate-change research. A spokesman said that under the International Polar Year program the government has invested about $100 million in 44 scientific projects, including climate-change research.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/DARRYL DYCK

Prime Minister Stephen Harper sits with members of the Canadian Forces Soldier On Program, left and centre, as they watch Canada play Italy in ice sledge hockey at the Winter Paralympics in Vancouver on Saturday. Soldier On aims to empower ill and injured military personnel through sport.

Paralympics' coverage grows

PARALYMPIC 2010Games

BROADCAST Competition for the 2010 Paralympic Winter Games began Saturday and with it also an unprecedented amount of television coverage across Canada for the Paralympics.

The 57 hours being broadcast by the CTV-Rogers consortium that owns the rights to the Paralympics is drastically less than what was aired during the Olympics.

Still, it's a step forward, said Xavier Gonzalez, the executive director of the International Paralympic Committee.

"It is the largest coverage ever that Canada has had in terms of Paralympic sport," he said in an interview.

The opening ceremonies were not broadcast live across the country, only in B.C. The rest of Canada had the chance to see a taped broadcast Saturday.

Each day of the Games, the consortium will air daily highlights from competition and they'll also be showing all of the men's sledge hockey games, including live broadcasts of the gold medal round. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Luger's family to get insurance funds from Games

DEATH The family of a Georgian luger who died at the 2010 Winter Olympics will receive insurance money from the Vancouver organizing committee.

The committee had insurance policies for the 5,000 athletes and officials who were at the Games, as well as other members of the Olympic family.

The policy will pay out an undisclosed sum to Nodar Kumaritashvili's relatives, the chief executive officer of the committee said.

Kumaritashvili, 21, died on a training run at the Whistler Sliding Centre on the first day of the Olympics. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

MASTECTOMY A patient of a doctor at the centre of a mistaken mastectomy case says she's disappointed the surgeon had her privileges reinstated by a Windsor, Ont., hospital. Janice Laporte wanted a provincial investigation to be finished before Dr. Barbara Heartwell performed surgery again. But Laporte said she is happy a second doctor will review cancer surgeries. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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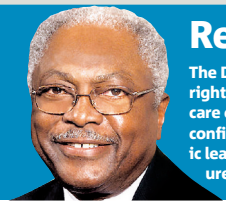
U.S. authorizes diplomats' families to leave northern Mexico
The U.S. State Department is authorizing American government employees at six U.S. consulates in northern Mexico to send their family members out of the area because of concerns about rising drug-related violence. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World



Rep. confident reform will pass

The Democrats' chief vote counter in the U.S. House of Representatives says that right now there aren't enough votes to pass President Barack Obama's health care overhaul. But Rep. James Clyburn, left, of South Carolina says he's confident that the legislation will pass. He says the White House and Democratic leaders in Congress have got to a point where there's a way to send the measure to the president's desk for his signature. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHRIS CORRADINO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A tree lies across a smashed car in Wantagh, New York, yesterday.

Rain, high winds wreak havoc in Northeastern U.S.

NEW YORK Utility crews pushed through fallen trees and windblown debris to reach downed power lines yesterday, working to restore electricity to hundreds of thousands of homes and businesses as strong winds and heavy rain that wreaked havoc in parts of the Northeastern U.S. pushed on into New England. At least two people were killed by falling trees.

The storm, which battered parts of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Connecticut on Saturday with gusts of up to 110 kph, struck about two weeks after heavy snow and hurricane-force winds left more than a million customers in the U.S. Northeast in the dark.

More than a half-million customers in the region lost electricity at the peak of Saturday's storm, and roughly 500,000 were waiting for power to be restored yesterday morning.

In Manhattan, Broadway's sidewalks and trash cans were littered with hundreds of shattered umbrellas.

One person was killed and three others were injured in Westport, Connecticut, after a tree fell on a car Saturday night during the storm, police said.

Police in New Jersey were investigating whether two people found dead Saturday night were killed by a falling tree. The tree took down power lines as it fell.

In Hartsdale, New York, a man was killed when a large tree crushed the roof of his car and entangled it in live wires. Brendan McGrath, 58, of Auburn, New York, was found dead in his 2009 Hyundai sedan. His wife, Mary, also 58, escaped from the passenger side.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Travel delays

- Travelling was problematic on the rails and in the air. More than 500 passengers on a New Jersey Transit train were stranded for six to seven hours because of power supply problems, spokesman Dan Stessel said yesterday. Flights at Newark Liberty International Airport were delayed by as many as four hours Saturday, and some flights bound for New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport had to be redirected to Boston's Logan International Airport.

Tribal violence rocks Somalia

LAND FIGHT A clan elder says a fight over land rights between two rival clans has killed at least 15 people. Clan elder Abdulahi Bashir Jama says Saturday's fighting was triggered by long-standing hostilities over land ownership. The fighting took place in Amara village in the country's north, far from the capital of Mogadishu, where Islamist militants have been clashing with government troops.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sarkozy takes hit from left in French regional elections

PARIS France's Socialist-led left defeated Nicolas Sarkozy's conservatives in the first round of regional elections yesterday, according to partial official results, in a new blow to the increasingly unpopular president.

Many voters blame Sarkozy and the governing conservatives for failing to protect jobs amid France's worst economic downturn since the Second World War, and for not keeping their promise to make the country prosper in the face of growing global competition.

The first-round results suggest the Socialists and their allies will win control of the overwhelming majority of France's 26 regions. The Socialists already run 20 of the 22 regions on the French mainland after trouncing conservatives in the last elections in 2004.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Celibacy not related to sex abuse: Vatican

The Vatican yesterday denied that its celibacy requirement for priests was the root cause of the clerical sex abuse scandal convulsing the church in Europe and again defended the Pope's handling of the crisis.

Suggestions that the celibacy rule was in part responsible for the "deviant behaviour" of sexually abusive priests have swirled in recent days, with opinion pieces in German newspapers blaming it for fueling abuse and even Italian commentators questioning the rule. Much of the furor was spurred by comments from one of the Pope's closest advisers, Vienna archbishop Cardinal Christoph Schoenborn, who called last week for an honest examination of issues like celibacy and priestly education to root out the origins of sex abuse.

"Part of it is the question of celibacy, as well as the subject of character development. And part of it is a large portion of honesty, in the church but also in society," he wrote in the online edition of his diocesan newsletter.

His office quickly stressed that Schoenborn wasn't calling into question priestly celibacy, which Pope Benedict XVI reaffirmed as recently as Friday as an "expression of the gift of oneself to God and others."

In the days following Schoenborn's editorial, several prominent prelates shot down any suggestion that the celibacy rule had anything to do with the scandal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. takes it slow on Europe nuclear withdraw.
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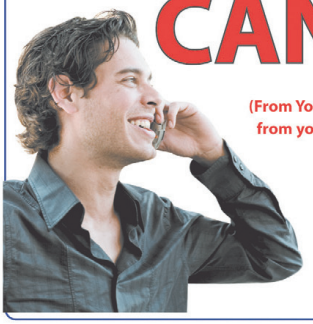

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Less invasive surgery for leaky heart valves in the works

Many people in the U.S. with leaky heart valves soon might be able to get them fixed without open-heart surgery. A study showed that a tiny clip implanted through an artery was safer and nearly as effective as surgery, doctors reported yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bombs a 'warning': Taliban

The Taliban yesterday called their deadly bomb attacks on the southern city of Kandahar a warning to NATO's top general that the insurgents were ready for the war's next major offensive in their heartland.

The series of bombings that demolished buildings and killed dozens — including 10 people at a wedding — prompted the provincial governor to plead for more security in the area.

Fearful residents said they had no confidence that either government or foreign troops can protect them.

Taliban spokesman Qari Yousef Ahmadi said the Saturday night attacks proved the insurgents were still able to operate despite the buildup of Afghan and international troops in preparation for a push into Kandahar province.

A Taliban-linked website called the attacks in the south's largest city a "warning" to NATO's Gen. Stanley McChrystal, who has said coalition forces will target Kandahar later this year after driving the insurgents from a key stronghold in neighbouring Helmand province.

"Gen. McChrystal has said that soon they will start their operations, and now we have already started our operations," Ahmadi told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. "With all the preparations they have taken, still they are not able to stop us."

However, Ministry of Interior spokesman Zemeri Bashary said the attacks failed to achieve their main objective, which was apparently to repeat the success of a 2008 suicide bombing at the prison gates that freed hundreds of criminals and suspected insurgents.

Canadian troops had recently reinforced the lockup with cement block, so Saturday's blast did not break through and no inmates escaped this time.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALLAUDDIN KHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An Afghan police officer stands yesterday near shops damaged in an explosion outside the police headquarters in Kandahar, Afghanistan. The governor of Kandahar province demanded more security around Afghanistan's largest southern city after 12 explosions killed dozens of people.

Prince to visit bison-filled virgin forest in Poland

WILDLIFE Britain's Prince Charles visits Poland today, a journey that includes a visit to a bison-filled woodland — Europe's last remaining primeval forest thanks to preservation efforts of kings and czars of centuries past.

The British Embassy in Warsaw said the environmentally-minded prince, along with his wife, Camilla, will visit a bison reserve where they will be guaranteed a view of several of the hefty beasts that are Europe's largest land mammals and less-hirsute cousins of the North American buffalo.

They will then go to a feeding point where they may be able to see some of the imposing animals wandering freely.

During the warmer months, the bison feed on grass and other vegetation, living in the wild and avoiding human settlements.

But during the winter they are dependent on supplemental feeding stations that help them survive and keep them from ravaging farmlands.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Biggest population

- There are more than 800 bison in the Bialowieza Forest park, with 450 on the Polish side, together making up the world's largest free-living population of European bison.

News in brief

ELECTION Partial counts from all of Iraq's 18 provinces show the prime minister's bloc leading in the country's key parliamentary elections. Iraq's electoral commission said yesterday that Nouri al-Maliki's State of Law coalition is leading in eight provinces. The secular Iraqiya bloc headed by former Prime Minister Ayad Allawi leads in four, while the religious Shiite Iraqi National Alliance and the main Kurdish coalition lead in three provinces each. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rate Roulette

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What is Rate Roulette?

Roulette is a popular casino game in which players gamble on where a ball will land on a spinning wheel marked with a range of numbers. As long as you play within your limit, the game can be fun, even though the odds are stacked against you picking the winning number. Rate Roulette is a game played by drivers who gamble they will find the lowest rate on their car insurance by sticking with a single insurance company. The difference? Most drivers don't even realize they are playing and gambling with their car insurance rate in the first place, mistakenly figuring they've already picked the lowest rate with their current insurer.

What Are My Chances Of Finding The Lowest Rate?

The odds against you picking the winning number on a single spin of the Roulette wheel are 37 to 1. Sadly, the odds against a driver picking the insurance company with the lowest insurance rate for their profile aren't much better. Why? Because there are over 30 insurance companies to choose from and the rates each of them charge to insure the same driver, with the same car, for the same coverage, can vary by hundreds and even thousands of dollars. Take a look at the table below.

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1 Accident	$1,849	$3,753	$1,904

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Website claims Chavez censorship bid
A Venezuelan website accused by President Hugo Chavez of spreading false reports of killings said the government is trying to restrict criticism. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

world 13

Israel urges calm

Israel's prime minister tried to play down a serious diplomatic dispute with the United States yesterday, urging calm after another stern rebuke from Washington over plans to build 1,600 new apartments for Jews in contested east Jerusalem.

Reflecting the high tension, Israel deployed hundreds of security forces around Jerusalem's Old City, the scene of clashes with Palestinian protesters in recent days. The Israeli military also extended an order barring most Palestinians from entering Israel from the West Bank.

Israel's already strained relationship with the U.S. hit a new low last week when it announced the construction plans during a visit by Vice-President Joe Biden. The timing of the announcement deeply embarrassed the Obama administration and put plans for indirect peace talks with the Palestinians in jeopardy.

The U.S. responded with repeated condemnations, including a lecture from Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton over the weekend. A senior White House official added another stinging rebuke yesterday.

Netanyahu has been trying to dispel the impression that relations with the U.S. have degenerated into a crisis. His attempt yesterday to ease concerns were his first public comments since the feud erupted.

"We opened the newspapers this morning and read all kinds of commentary and assumptions regarding the crisis with the U.S. I recommend not to get carried away and to calm down," Netanyahu told his Cabinet. "There was a regrettable incident that was done in all innocence and was hurtful, and which certainly should not have occurred."

Netanyahu, however, gave no indication he would cancel the east Jerusalem construction plan, despite warnings from Washington it could undermine the negotiating climate as indirect peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians are to begin under U.S. mediation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sri Lanka **Party rejects charges**

ERANGA JAYAWARDENA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Anoma Fonseka, wife of defeated presidential candidate and former military chief Sarath Fonseka, seen in the backdrop, looks on during a meeting at their party office in Colombo, Sri Lanka yesterday. A spokesman says Sri Lankan opposition alliance has rejected politically motivated charges against Fonseka, who will face a court martial tomorrow.

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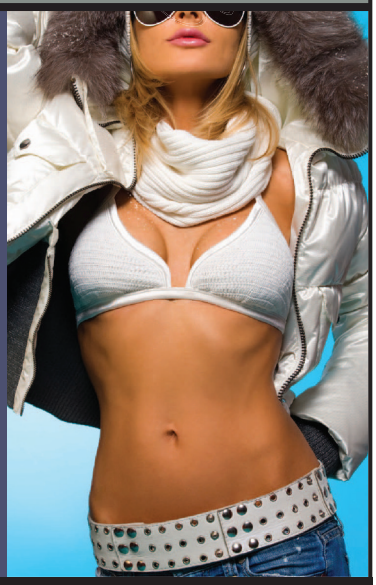

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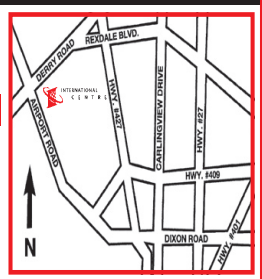

FOR MORE INFO GO TO WWW.SALEEVENT.CA

Belgian cop killed in shootout

Cops in Belgium say an officer was killed when he confronted a gunman who killed his son. The gunman also died in the shootout yesterday in Bilzen. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAVID LONGSTREATH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Protesters from the United Front for Democracy Against Dictatorship dance yesterday near the Democracy Monument in Bangkok, Thailand. Thousands of protesters gathered to demand the government return power to the people or face mass marches. The march is regarded by some as the last chance for ousted Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra to return to Thailand.

Sea of Thai protesters demands new elections

As many as 100,000 people demonstrated peacefully against Thailand's government at a party-like rally yesterday, but the capital was being kept on edge by their threat to continue protesting until Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva calls new elections.

Loud pop music and rural delicacies such as spicy papaya salad competed with fiery rhetoric for the attention of the crowd, many of whom had come from provinces in the countryside. The festive tone was aided by hundreds of new arrivals disembarking from boats festooned with red banners on the Chao Phraya River.

The so-called Red Shirts — comprising followers of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra and their allies — rallied along a boulevard that is a traditional venue for political protests.

The protesters, formally grouped as the United Front For Democracy Against Dictatorship, have been flexible in their tactics and deadlines, but are demanding Abhisit dissolve parliament and call new elections, which they believe will restore their political allies to power.

They believe Abhisit took office illegitimately with the connivance of the military and other parts of the traditional ruling class who were alarmed by Thaksin's popularity, particularly among the poor. Thaksin, who became prime minister in 2001 and whose party easily won two elections, was ousted by a 2006 military coup for alleged corruption and abuse of power.

The Red Shirts set a deadline of noon today for Abhisit to heed their call, or face disruptive street protests. They said they would go this morning to an infantry base on Bangkok's outskirts to confront Abhisit, who has taken the precaution of sheltering there.

Abhisit indicated yesterday that for now, he had no plans to dissolve parliament. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Violations mar Russian regional elections: Official

POLITICS The ruling United Russia party appeared headed for an expected victory in regional elections yesterday, according to partial results, although many disgruntled voters threw their support behind opposition candidates.

With about 25 per cent of votes counted, United Russia looked set to lose one high-profile contest — the mayoral elections in the Siberian city of Irkutsk, which has seen a series of anti-government protests in recent weeks.

Partial counts showed United Russia getting less than 50 per cent of the vote in most of the ballots to choose regional legislatures, although it appeared to be enough to control a plurality of seats in all cases.

The last major Russian regional election in October ended in a landslide for United Russia, but was marred by allegations of widespread fraud.

Yesterday's vote in 76 of Russia's 83 regions came at a time of growing anti-government street protests.

As the results were coming in, one United Russia official took the unusual step of calling the balloting "dirty" and trading accusations of fraud with the opposition. United Russia parliamentary deputy Vyacheslav Timchenko said in a statement issued by the party that the elections were marked by a "shockingly large number of violations." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Basque man arrested in U.K.

ETA A Basque man wanted in Spain and accused of having links to armed separatist group ETA was arrested in London yesterday on a European warrant, according to British police and Spanish news reports.

Garikoitz Ibarlucea Murua, 29, was arrested by an extradition unit in London's busy Soho district, London police said.

Ibarlucea Murua is wanted by Spain for "belonging to an armed group," Spanish press agency Europa Press reported. He has been accused of taking part in several acts of street violence, the agency said.

Murua will appear in a London court today. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

Adjusting service at GO and TTC

InTransit

Ed Drass

metronews.ca/intransit

GTA transit riders, avoid surprises and check your bus and train schedules over the next few weeks.

In addition to system-wide changes taking effect at GO Transit April 3, the TTC is cutting back some bus service as of March 29.

These are mostly minor adjustments, and more vehicles will actually be added along certain lines. However, some GO riders are losing their routes entirely.

GO buses from Newmarket down Yonge Street and to York University are disappearing in April, prompting online petitions and a large public meeting — held by Newmarket-Aurora Conservative MPP Frank Klees last week.

In 2003, GO moved 14,000 people to and from Finch subway station daily, but was ordered to start cutting service in favour of planned "semi-express" Viva buses. After years of reductions, only about 600 die-hard GO riders now use the corridor.

On the web

- For all your transit news and service updates, check out our new transit page at metronews.ca.

Let's be clear — Viva may be superior to local York Region Transit service but the GO bus is a step up from Viva.

We're losing a piece of our transit network and while I wish Klees luck in trying to stop it, the loss is a predictable result of handing over GO routes to York Region — a process he began in 2003 as Ontario's transport minister.

•••••

Update on 12-car GO trains: Riders on the crowded Lakeshore corridor may feel extra cars are long overdue, but GO chief Gary McNeil states neither the ordering nor delivery of new equipment has been delayed. Look for half of Lakeshore trains to be 12-car by year's end, primarily on express runs.

•••••

Quick Tip: The TTC's day pass rules are usually relaxed during March break, allowing families and groups to travel Monday to Friday. Call 416-393-4636 to confirm, or check at subway collector booths.

Toronto-based transport writer Ed Drass covers transit issues every Monday; transit@eddrass.com.

Views

Friends, countrymen lend me your sheets

HineSight

Anne Hines

metronews.ca/hinesight

The toughest part of writing a weekly column is the "what the hell am I going to write about" syndrome. Usually, this involves staring for hours at a blank screen thinking, "Hmmm ... cellophane. Could I say something about cellophane?" This is not nearly as much fun as it sounds.

A good column topic is intriguing, timely and, most of all, not likely to illicit reader email with the subject line "Why don't you get a real job?" Sometimes I don't manage it.

But today finding a topic is easy. It's March 15. Which means it's the Ides of March. Which means it's also the International Association of Hash House Harriers' Roman Toga Race. This is a really big day.

Some readers may now be asking, "What's this Ides stuff?" "The Hash House who?" or "Why don't you get a real job?" (Mom, stop sending me these emails).

The Ides of March is the day Roman emperor Julius Caesar was stabbed to death by a group of his closest colleagues. "Ides" denoted the 15th day of any month with 31 days. In months of only 30 days the 15th was called ... um ... likely, the 15th.

"In modern times, the Ides of March is known for: 1. It being difficult to convince a politician to go for lunch; and 2. The Hash House Harriers' toga race."

In modern times, the Ides of March is known for: 1. It being difficult to convince a politician to go for lunch; and 2. The Hash House Harriers' toga race.

The Hash House Harriers society began in 1938 when some young British soldiers decided they needed a physical fitness regime that would: a) help them get rid of their hangovers from the weekend before; and b) help them acquire a good thirst so they could hit the beer again.

They started weekly harrier races. I looked up "harrier" in the dictionary and it said "to be harried." Excellent.

The rules of harrier racing go: One person starts running. Everyone else tries to catch them. There is no designated finish line. Basically, the game ends when someone says, "Right then. Who's for a drink?"

On March 15, global Hash House Harrier societies gather in Rome, put on togas and run past the spot where Caesar was stabbed. Then they all go out for a drink. Their motto is, "I mean, why not?"

So, fellow citizens, let us, too, honour Caesar. Let us don bed sheets (mine are plaid flannel but I think it still counts) and runneth past city hall. Or maybe just hoist a glass with friends. Your choice.

Happy Ides of March!

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.

MICHAEL DEADDER

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Head of Canwest's publishing division stepping down

Dennis Skulsky is stepping down as head of the publishing division of Canwest Global Communications Corp. in what he described Friday as a "very personal decision," but he will still be involved in the next step in the newspaper company's restructuring and sale. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

DOLLAR	N.GAS	OIL	TSX
US 98.20¢ (Friday's close)	US $4.4 (Friday's close)	US $81.24 (Friday's close)	12,013.82 (Friday's close)

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Canadian dollar flirts with parity

The latest inflation data could move the Canadian dollar even closer to parity with the U.S. dollar this week after a strong employment report Friday sent the loonie surging.

The currency ended the week at 98.2 cents US and Canada will move to raise interest rates mid-year.

And pressure on the dollar could build at the end of this week when the February Consumer Price Index is released.

"If we get a surprisingly high reading on that front,

THE MUNRO FAMILY
37A-B-C

during the course of Friday trading came within about a cent and a half of parity — its highest level since July 2008. The loonie hasn't been level with the greenback since May 2008.

"It sounds a bit counter-intuitive to see a strong inflation report being good for a currency." Doug Porter, BMO Capital Markets

The reason for the currency's latest runup was a better than expected Canadian employment report for February. Statistics Canada reported that 21,000 jobs were created last month, better than the 15,000 that had been expected by many economists. The unemployment rate fell to 8.2 per cent from 8.3 per cent.

The report served to further convince currency traders that the Bank of Canada will move to raise interest rates mid-year. And pressure on the dollar could build at the end of this week when the February Consumer Price Index is released.

"If we get a surprisingly high reading on that front, then expectations of Bank of Canada interest rates hikes will just build incredibly and that could be the trigger that pushes us through parity if that CPI report is higher than expected," said Doug Porter, deputy chief economist at BMO Capital Markets.

"It sounds a bit counter-intuitive to see a strong inflation report being good for a currency, but that's the way currency markets read this, at least over the short term, is that strong inflation equals interest rate hikes, which equals a more robust currency."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

China train lines **High speed in the U.S.**

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

China plans to bid for contracts to build U.S. high-speed train lines and is stepping up exports of rail technology to Europe and Latin America, Deputy Railways Minister Wang Zhiguo said Saturday. China has built 6,500 kilometres of high-speed rail for its own train system and U.S. President Barack Obama issued a pledge in November with his Chinese counterpart Hu Jintao to co-operate in developing the technology.

Apple rewards stand-in chief

BONUS Apple Inc. is giving its chief operating officer a $5-million US bonus for "outstanding performance" running the company while CEO Steve Jobs was on medical leave.

Timothy Cook, 49, will also receive 75,000 restricted stock units scheduled to vest in 2011 and 2012.

Jobs, 55, limits his salary to $1 per year, which leaves Cook the company's highest-paid executive. In 2009, Cook received an $800,400 salary — $800,000 in non-stock incentive compensation; and about $40,900 in company matches to his retirement account, life insurance premiums and cash for unused vacation days.

The COO also holds 13,741 shares of Apple stock and 500,000 additional restricted stock options.

Cook

Cook took the company reins when Jobs, a pancreatic cancer survivor, went on medical leave from January through June 2009.

It was Cook's second stint leading Apple. Cook, who joined Apple in 1998, ran the Cupertino, Calif.-based company for two months in 2004 while Jobs recovered from surgery for pancreatic cancer. His performance then won him the promotion to chief operating officer in 2005.

Analysts credit Cook with solving problems that Apple was having with inventory management. That has been key to Apple's ability to amass $25 billion in cash and short-term investments. Many people consider Cook as Jobs' logical successor.

LINDSAY PERRY
21J

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nortel makes profit on asset sales

EARNINGS Nortel Networks Corp., which is operating under court protection from creditors, said Friday it earned $1.78 billion US in its latest quarter as it sold off assets and worked to wind down its operations.

KATE ZULU
42D

The company said its profit amounted to $3.34 per share for the quarter ended Dec. 31 compared with a loss of $2.14 billion or $4.28 per share a year ago. The results included $689 million from the sale of its enterprise solutions business to Avaya Inc. and $1.2 billion related to the sale of its wireless network business to Ericsson.

Nortel has been selling off its divisions after filing for creditor protection at the beginning of last year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

AbitibiBowater, union reach deal

PAPER A tentative deal has been reached between insolvent newspaper giant AbitibiBowater Inc. and the Quebec Federation of Labour.

The agreement, which was hammered out over nine days of negotiations, include wage concessions. It will affect some 1,000 workers at four pulp and paper mills across Quebec.

The deal's ratification depends on the Abitibi-Bowater exiting bankruptcy protection and workers will vote on the pact in the coming days.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

MINING Vale said Friday it plans to increase nickel production at its strike-bound operations in Sudbury after workers voted to reject the company's latest contract offer. More than 3,000 production and maintenance workers have been on strike for close to eight months. However, the company has trained non-striking workers from another union local including office, clerical and technical workers to help restart some of its operations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bowmanville cement workers walk off job

PENSION Dozens of workers set up picket lines outside the St. Marys Cement plant in Bowmanville yesterday over proposed changes to their pension plan.

The walkout follows two months of intensive negotiations between the Canadian Auto Workers and the Toronto-based company.

Currently, the workers have a defined-benefit plan, meaning the amount of their pensions is fixed. Similar plans across Canada have found themselves deeply in the red in recent years, mostly due to low interest rates, leaving companies which sponsor the plans scrambling to make up the shortfall.

CAW national representative Keith Osborne said the company wants to change the plan structure to a defined-contribution plan, which could mean lower benefits on retirement.

"The company wanted to take the risk of liability off their books and put it onto the workers," Osborne said

Almost 90 workers, who have been without a contract since Jan. 31, are now off the job.

Osborne said he expected the strike to be lengthy, a point pressed home at a membership meeting Friday night, where workers opted for the walkout rather than accept the pension-plan change.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Major producer

- St. Marys Cement, which has six plants including the one in Bowmanville, is a major aggregate producer and one of Canada's largest quarry, gravel and cement operations.

SCANLIFE
Media look for future online revenue models. Scan this code or text WebNews to 82442 for the story.

Bird Construction's earnings fall slightly
Bird Construction Income Fund, owner of one of Canada's largest construction firms, reported slightly lower fourth-quarter and full-year earnings Friday. Net income was $13 million, down from $14.6 million in the comparable 2008 period. THE CANADIAN PRESS

RAV4s won't r-r-roll away?

Tims says prize vehicle safe

Java junkies who win a Toyota RAV4 in the latest Tim Hortons roll-up-the-rim contest shouldn't have to worry about the 2010 Toyotas r-r-rolling out of control down the highway.

Company official David Gollom says the 2010 RAV4 was part of a recall of about 270,000 vehicles to correct accelerator pedals that were sticking, but any problems with the model would have been corrected. Tim Hortons is giving away 40 RAV4s in the latest version of its popular contest.

In a statement, the company says the vehicles "have been certified by the manufacturer to have addressed any recall orders."

Karl Moore, a McGill University management professor, said the co-branding partnership between Tim Hortons and Toyota was a "brilliant move" five years ago. "When they started, Toyota was the world's best car brand," Moore said.

The marketing expert said the business decision by Tim Hortons not to pull the plug is encouraging for the embattled automaker.

"Toyota is just scrambling to try to retain their image and get back to where they were, so this would be just one small element of how to do that," Moore said.

"That Tim Hortons is supporting them is encouraging to their brand and it's another small way to keep the brand going." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tests fail to find Prius fault

AUTOS A memo drafted for a congressional panel says that investigators with Toyota Motor Corp. and the federal government were unable to make a Prius speed out of control as its owner said it did on a California freeway, casting doubt on the driver's story.

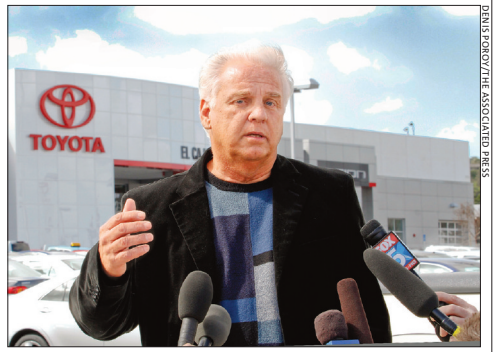
The draft memo said the experts who examined and test drove the car could not replicate the problems James Sikes said he encountered. Sikes, 61, called 911 last Monday to report losing control of his Prius as the hybrid reached speeds of 94 mph.

Monday's incident appeared to be another blow to Toyota. Regulators have linked 52 deaths to crashes allegedly caused by accelerator problems.

The brakes on the Prius did not show wear consistent with having been applied at full force at high speeds for a long period, the Wall Street Journal reported Saturday, citing three people familiar with the probe.

However, the memo did say investigators found the front brake pads were spent.

"Visually checking the brake pads and rotor it was clearly visible that there was nothing left," it said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



DENIS POROY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Driver James Sikes talks about his experience with his Toyota Prius during a news conference last week in El Cajon, Calif.

Brampton Brick trims loss in 4th quarter

CONSTRUCTION Brampton Brick Ltd., one of Canada's largest producers of bricks for construction, reduced its loss in the fourth quarter, but not by enough to improve results for the full year. The company said Friday it lost $2.3 million or 21 cents in the three months ended Dec. 31, trimming its year-ago loss of $9.9 million or 91 cents a share by 80 per cent. The 2008 loss included a $6.7-million goodwill impairment charge.

Net sales from continuing operations grew to $15 million from $14.3 million. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Employers hiring older workers

JOBS Employers may be hiring senior executives who lost their jobs during the recession, according to recruiters puzzling over a trend in the latest jobs figures that found nearly half of new jobs going to men over the age of 55.

A report issued Friday by Statistics Canada indicated that 26,000 of the 60,000 full-time employees who entered the workforce last month were men over 55.

Susan Eng, a vice-president at the Canadian Association for Retired Persons, said the trend will likely continue because many older men were given early retirement packages. She pointed out the figures have reversed a trend last year in which older women took on part-time and entrepreneurial jobs after their husbands lost their jobs.

The Conference Board of Canada reported that over the past 12 months, 320,000 men lost their jobs, compared to 80,000 women — a four-to-one ratio. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Laptops save energy

Are you looking into buying a new computer? Choose a laptop — it uses about six times less electricity than your traditional desktop, according to The Carbon Buster's Home Energy Handbook. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Going Green

Chilling effect

Chill is a critical survey of climate change by a committed environmentalist and scientist. Based on extensive research, it reveals a disturbing collusion of interests responsible for creating a distorted understanding of changes in global climate. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

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Going green for green

Program rewards participants for recycling

BEN KNIGHT
for Metro Canada

Taking out the trash has gotten complicated. Different bins, different pick-up days. Wouldn't it be nice if someone actually paid you to do this stuff?

For more than a million households in the United States and Great Britain, somebody does.

RecycleBank is an incentive points program that collects recycling curbside, weighs it, and assigns points that are redeemable for discounts with local merchants.

"It's a win, win, win," says Atul Nanda, president of RecycleBank's Canadian division. "We're increasing diversion in our cities, increasing economic stimulus for the stores, and providing value-added incentive for people to increase their environmental behavior."

The program is not available in Canada quite yet, but is now running in 25 American states. Pilot programs already exist in Chicago, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Houston and Atlanta.

"We've been in discussions with several cities in Canada," Nanda says. "At this point, we don't have a firm date, but we're going to continue our negotiations. The areas we've looked at have been in Ontario, as well as on the west coast."

Recyclebank got some significant acknowledgement in 2009, when the company was named a United Nations Environment Program Champions of the Earth.

"To date, the material recycled by the households we service has enabled RecycleBank to save cities tens of millions of dollars annually in landfill disposal fees, save over 1.5 million trees, and save millions of gallons of oil," company founder Ron Gonen said in his U.N. acceptance speech.

"We have over 2,500 partners," Nanda notes. "That's larger than virtually every other loyalty program out there. We have a very robust partner list. We are also expanding our services to be more than just recycling diversion. We have an electronics e-waste program. We're also partnered in with eBay to help incentify people for reducing."

Having recently crossed the million-home threshold, RecycleBank is aiming for sustained growth.

"I'd like to think that in three years we'll be in at least half of Canada, as well as the majority of the states," Nanda says. "Projections are very difficult to make, but based on our rapid growth so far, I think it's only going to accelerate, eventually reaching 10 or 20-million households."

And you don't even have to separate your glass, paper and plastic. RecycleBank does it all.

"We believe we have a product where — really — the sky is the limit."

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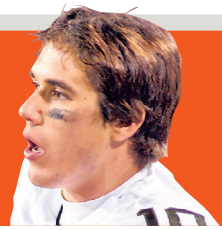
PostGame

WATCH YESTERDAY'S POST GAME VIDEO!
Featuring replays, interviews and sports commentary at **metronews.ca/Sports**

Sports

Quinn traded to Broncos

The Cleveland Browns have traded quarterback Brady Quinn, right, to the Denver Broncos for fullback Peyton Hillis and a 2011 draft pick. The teams announced the trade yesterday and said the deal is pending physicals. Quinn's departure comes one day after the Browns agreed to terms with free agent Jake Delhomme on a two-year contract. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Jays close in on Cuban: Report

Toronto nearing $10M deal with shortstop coveted by Yankees

The Jays are close to signing 21-year-old Cuban defector Adeinis Hechavarria for a $10-million US bonus that would tie him to the team for four years, according to George King in yesterday's edition of the New York Post.

The free-spending Yankees were considered front-runners for the shortstop but, according to King, Hechavarria's mind was changed because of the reported contract extension being negotiated by New York captain Derek Jeter.

"Especially when it comes to free agents, whether they're Latin American or real free agents, opportunity is a big component of it," a vague and non-committal Jays general manager Alex Anthopoulos explained while refusing to confirm his interest in the prospect.

"Anyone that you look to sign is going to check the landscape and see who's competing in front of them and so on, where the opportunity can lie to get to the big leagues as fast as you can."

The Jays have been looking for an everyday shortstop since Alex Gonzalez departed the scene in the winter of 2001.

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See the Local page to learn how to scan.

"I can't get into specifics, but everyone knows we've been looking for young, talented players, especially in the middle infield," Anthopoulos said. "We've been trying to get a shortstop, adding more depth and getting more prospects. We need to be involved in more of those guys and evaluating them."

The Jays were reported to be among the final four teams in the running for left-hander Aroldis Chapman, another Cuban, who eventually chose the Cincinnati Reds. Since then, the Jays are reported to have staged a private workout in the Dominican Republic for Cuban first baseman J.J. Ruiz, who remains unsigned, and now have their sights set on Hechavarria, who at six-foot-one, 170 pounds, is being compared to Alfonso Soriano. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Raptors lose fifth straight game after getting blazed in Portland

NBA RESULTS

Toronto 98 Portland 109

VS

NBA Nicolas Batum scored 22 points, making five of six three-point attempts, and the Portland Trail Blazers won their fourth straight with a 109-98 victory over the Toronto Raptors last night.

LaMarcus Aldridge added 22 points and 12 rebounds for the Blazers, who have won nine of 11. Brandon Roy had 20 points.

Chris Bosh had 28 points and seven rebounds for the Raptors, who have lost five straight, matching a season high.

Bosh was playing in his fourth game after missing seven games with a sprained ankle and a stomach virus.

The Blazers led by as many as 15 points, but Andrea Bargnani hit a pair of free throws that pulled the Raptors within four before Sonny Weems' long jumper made it 93-91 with 6:15 left.

Portland kept Toronto at bay, going up 101-93 on Roy's hook shot and a pair of free throws from Batum. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tim Hortons Brier **Alberta takes the trophy**

ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alberta's Kevin Koe, Blake MacDonald, Carter Rycroft and Nolan Thiessen, left to right, celebrate their Brier victory over Ontario in Halifax last night. Alberta won 6-5 in an extra end.

Sports in brief

PARALYMPICS Colette Bourgonje captured Canada's first medal yesterday at the Paralympic Games, then Vivian Forest and Josh Dueck added to the country's medal haul shortly after. Bourgonje won silver in the women's 10-kilometre sit-ski cross-country, to become the first Canadian to win a Paralympic medal on home turf. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SCOREBOARD

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

N.Y. Islanders 4 TORONTO 1
Colorado 5 Dallas 3
Nashville 3 Los Angeles 2
N.Y. Rangers 3 Philadelphia 1
Phoenix 3 Atlanta 2 (SO)
Pittsburgh 2 Tampa Bay 1
Washington 4 Chicago 3 (OT)
Minnesota 4 St. Louis 2
Anaheim 4 San Jose 2
Calgary at Vancouver

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Portland 109 TORONTO 98
Charlotte 96 Orlando 89
Cleveland 104 Boston 93
Miami 104 Philadelphia 91
Milwaukee 98 Indiana 94
Oklahoma City 119 Utah 111
Phoenix 120 New Orleans 106
Sacramento 114 Minnesota 100

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369

Injury to force Beckham out of World Cup: Source

David Beckham will miss the World Cup after tearing his left Achilles tendon while playing for AC Milan, a person familiar with the injury told The Associated Press. Bidding to become the first English player to appear in four World Cups, Beckham was injured during AC Milan's 1-0 win over Chievo Verona yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASL headed to Ottawa?

Emerging league could be a home for hard-core soccer fans

JustSoccer

Ben Rycroft

metronews.ca/justsoccer

As the eyes of the North American soccer world have been fixated on the MLS labour dispute for the last few months, the NASL, a newly formed second division, has been quietly laying the groundwork for the years ahead.

In its sights? Quite simply: Canada.

I was invited, along with Duane Rollins, one of the co-hosts of the It's Called Football show, to an off-the-record meeting with a high-ranking NASL official a month ago.

In it, they laid out for us their aggressive plans for Canada over the next two to three years.

Six cities, two in Ontario — all in markets that have strong soccer communities — are being targeted by the NASL.

How did we know it wasn't some NASL flack blowing smoke up our microphones? A few days later they tipped us to two things. One, Edmonton was about to be announced as the newest NASL franchise. My co-host, Rollins, broke that on his website the 24thminute.com.

And two, they told us of a rift in the Vancouver Whitecaps front office over its move to MLS.

Two weeks after that was reported and a week after Whitecaps president Bob Lenarduzzi came on It's Called Football to dismiss the claims, the Caps parted ways with residency managing director Thomas Neindorf.

Coincidence? Maybe, but it played out exactly how the NASL source told us it would.

So what does all this mean? Well, I finally caught up with the man looking to bring the NASL to Ottawa this week and he confirmed what we had been told.

"I attended the NASL AGM last month and we are indeed looking at a franchise in the NASL," Neil Malhotra, an Ottawa developer, said by phone. "We feel the community is interested and the timing is right. But before we move forward we have to wait on the USSF (United States Soccer Federation) to make a decision on second-division soccer in the States."

Earlier this year, a group of teams split off from the USL-1 and formed a rival second division league. The USSF agreed to sanction both, putting off any final decisions until a later date.

The other name who came up in the meeting is Bob Young, owner of the CFL's Hamilton Tiger Cats.

Young, who co-owns the NASL Carolina Railhawks and whose company has been contracted to redesign the NASL website, has previously expressed interest in bringing a soccer team to Hamilton, and while he has declined several requests for comment, it's all but a foregone conclusion that it's his group behind the plans.

Calgary, Victoria, Quebec City and Winnipeg are the other cities tagged to be future NASL franchises. But those are less developed than the Ottawa and Hamilton bids.

The timing in all of this is probably the most interesting. As the MLS dances in the wind, waiting for its players to decide if they want to push their dispute to a strike, a hard-core group of soccer-first people are preparing a ground assault on the Canadian sporting landscape.

Things like proper academies, grass pitches and soccer-specific stadiums have been laid out as a mandate by the NASL.

And while the NASL would never attract the Saturday afternoon soccer moms if MLS was to go on strike, the hard-core footie fans, who have long railed against MLS' non-traditional ways, could conceivably find a home as NASL fans.

Watch Ben Rycroft on the It's Called Football show every Sunday at metronews.ca; ben.rycroft@metronews.ca.

Interview

- Neil Malhotra joins It's Called Football live today at 9 p.m. You can listen to the interview at 24thminute.com. If you miss the live event, you can find the archived show at metronews.ca/itscalledfootball tomorrow.

PAUL J. BERESWILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York Islander Freddy Meyer, front, sends Toronto's Mikhail Grabovski flying on a hard check during the first period of last night's game in Uniondale, N.Y. The Islanders won 4-1.

Leafs lose on the Island

NHL RESULTS

Maple Leafs 1 Islanders 4

TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS VS NEW YORK ISLANDERS

NHL Richard Park scored a short-handed goal and added an assist, and Martin Biron made 26 saves in the New York Islanders' 4-1 victory over the Toronto Maple Leafs last night.

Tim Jackman, Frans Nielsen and Matt Moulson also scored, and Blake Comeau added three assists to help the Islanders win their second straight game.

Nikolai Kulemin's goal in the opening minute marked Toronto's only offence.

The Maple Leafs had their season-high winning streak snapped at three.

The Islanders killed all seven Maple Leafs power plays, including four in the final period and scored short-handed for the second consecutive game.

Park had his fifth multi-point game and has three points in his last two games.

Jean-Sebastien Giguere made 28 saves for Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension

Public Open House

Finch West Station

The Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension (TYSSE) project will extend the TTC subway system from Downsview Subway Station to the City of Vaughan.

Toronto Transit Commission invites you to a Public Open House to view the preliminary design concepts for **Finch West Station**.

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
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A second Public Open House, featuring detailed architectural concepts will be held for the Finch West Station in the Summer of 2010.

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Applications to Ontario universities rise among secondary students
The Ontario Universities' Application Centre released its March undergraduate application statistics yesterday, showing a 2.6 per cent increase in applications among high school students compared to March 2009 figures. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

UBC tops Webometrics ranking

The University of British Columbia is the highest-ranking Canadian institution in Cybermetrics Labs' biannual Webometrics Ranking of World Universities, which measures universities' performance and impact through their online presence. UBC placed 35th overall. The other Canadian universities to make the top 100 are uToronto (36), SFU (61), uAlberta (67), uMontréal (75), McGill (78), and uWaterloo (97). METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Where does work stop and home life begin?

SYLVIA PUTZ
for Metro Canada

Bringing work home regularly from the office is something many of us do—about 50 per cent, according to a recent University of Toronto work-life study. And not surprisingly, it intrudes into our personal lives.

"Nearly half the population reports that people bring work home 'sometimes' or 'frequently,' which is particularly concerning given that the negative health impacts of an imbalance between work life and private life are well documented," said University of Toronto sociology professor and lead researcher Scott Schieman.

Schieman and his colleagues measured the extent to which work was interfering with personal time using data from a national survey of 1,800 workers. They found it to be high among several types of workers, including those employed in "high-status" areas, and those who work in stressful workplaces.

The high-status workers reporting interference are ones with job authority, high job skills, high personal earnings, and decision-making latitude. These are people who are more likely to be university or college-educated, or to be professionals, such as lawyers or doctors.

"People who are well-educated, professionals and those with job-related resources report that their work interferes with their personal lives more frequently, reflecting what we refer to as "the stress of higher status," reports Schieman.

In fact, a high-status worker who puts in long hours (50 hours or more per week) and has some or complete control over their work schedule is associated even more strongly with work interference at home.

High-status workers may have benefits and perks associated with their jobs, and that may help soften the impact of taking work home, but it doesn't change the reality that work often takes a large bite out of their personal life, says Schieman.

Another type of worker who has a high level of work interference into their private life is one who works in a stressful work environment with problems such as interpersonal conflict, job insecurity, or a high-pressure situation. These workers don't have much power to set the pacing of their work.

If you are in this unenviable position, you may want to renegotiate the timing of your work.

"Note that excessive pressures are less problematic for those with control over the pace of their work," says Schieman.

And when that isn't the case, such as it is among some high-status workers, it may help to "recognize that sometimes higher-status work is a key contributor to stress that results in a work-family imbalance," he says.

To obtain a better work-life balance, one should always separate their work life and their home/family life.

Better balance

- Here are some tips for a better work/life balance:
- Look after your health first. Get enough sleep, eat regularly and choose healthy food options, take time out for relaxation and exercise at least three times a week;
- Schedule "me" time regularly to get away from it all. Even an hour a week is important to decompress and regain perspective;
- Manage your time more effectively by creating to-do lists, prioritizing tasks, and setting time limits;
- Learn to say no;
- Separate work and family life;
- Use your annual leave;
- Obtain a flexible employer;
- Consider taking a career break or a "sabbatical" leave when needed.

Workology in brief

RACIST INCIDENTS AT QUEEN'S In a statement released on Friday, Queen's University reported that three vehicles in the An Clachan residence parking lot were vandalized with racist graffiti. The university also received information about an incident in a school library where a student experienced disparaging remarks about their faith and culture. The statement stresses that "racist attitudes have no place at this University."

ARCTIC LAB TO CLOSE Scientists with the Polar Environment Atmospheric Research Laboratory (PEARL), located 1,100 kilometres from the North Pole, announced this week they plan to shut down the lab, as the latest federal budget did not include new money for the Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmosphere Sciences. metro news services

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FSIN chiefs agree to FNUC restructuring
At their assembly last Tuesday, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations chiefs agreed to a new management structure for the First Nations University of Canada. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ask the BlackBerry guru

When anyone in Darci LaRocque's family got a gift that required assembly — a fish tank, a piece of electronics — she'd always be the one to put it together.

Her technical prowess showed up again when, as an adult, she worked at a bank and showed all her coworkers how to better use their computers' software.

When the bank got bought out by a larger one, she took a buyout and went back to college to study computer systems management.

After graduation, LaRocque — who is 45 now and was in her 30s when she changed careers — got hired by Vancouver Coastal Health in its information technology department. She enjoyed implementing new hardware and software, but not leaving staff to learn things on their own. "The training was scant, if you gave any at all."

She helped the company set up its executives on BlackBerrys in 2001. But everyone had questions. "I was inundated every time I left my office with 'How do you do this?'" recalls LaRocque. A year later, she booked a boardroom and invited the 400 users of BlackBerrys at the organization to a lunch-and-learn session.

She was shocked when 200 said they'd like to come.

LaRocque began running classes every two weeks. "They were full classes and everyone raved about it."

In 2007, convinced that training on the mobile device was so badly in need elsewhere as well, LaRocque quit her job and started Swirl Solutions out of her home.

Through her contacts, LaRocque soon found businesses to hire her for two- or three-hour workshops on basic, advanced and money-saving BlackBerry skills training.

She spends her days teaching around Vancouver, but also travels to cities like Toronto and Chicago. Most of her sessions are offered through workplaces, but she's doing her first open-to the-public course in Vancouver this April.

She's also started offering webinars on her website. And when LaRocque is not teaching, she's keeping up-to-date on all the latest in BlackBerry technology.

That means reading news on the web, checking out apps (with upwards of 800 of them, she admits she can't learn them all), and reading manuals, which she actually enjoys.

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

The Lowdown

Job title: BlackBerry trainer
Salary: $100,000 plus
Education/training: Computer and IT experience, BlackBerry training certificate
Best Part of the Job: "The people I meet and the satisfaction of knowing their next trip won't cost them three grand."
Worst Part of the Job: "How fast the technology changes."

Have any BlackBerry questions Darci LaRocque, knows the answers.

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Outrageous interview mistakes revealed

With competition hot for open positions, the pressure is on for job seekers to have flawless interview skills. Sometimes that pressure can cause candidates to make unusual, and sometimes unfavorable, interview mistakes. A new CareerBuilder survey of more than 2,700 hiring managers reveals the outrageous and common mistakes that some candidates have made in job interviews.

When asked for the most unusual blunders they'd encountered while interviewing candidates, hiring managers reported the following:

- Candidate wore a business suit with flip flops.
- Candidate asked if the interviewer wanted to meet for a drink after.
- Candidate had applied for an accounting job, yet said he was "bad at managing money."
- Candidate ate food in the employee break room after the interview.
- Candidate recited poetry.
- Candidate applying for a customer service job said "I don't really like working with people."
- Candidate had to go immediately to get his dog that had gotten loose in the parking lot.
- Candidate looked at the ceiling during the entire interview.
- Candidate used Dungeons and Dragons as an example of teamwork.
- Candidate filed fingernails.

In addition to the most unusual gaffes, employers shared the most common mistakes candidates made during an interview:

- Dressing inappropriately.
- Appearing disinterested.
- Speaking negatively about a current or previous employer.
- Answering a cell phone or texting during the interview.

"With heightened competition for open positions in today's economy, it's important for candidates to put their best foot forward in an interview," said Rosemary Haefner, vice-president of human resources for CareerBuilder. "You want to stand out for the right reasons. Candidates should stay positive, focus on their strengths and be prepared on how to best sell their skill set."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Interview tips

- Stay positive: No matter how tempting it is, don't say negative things about a previous employer, regardless of how the job ended.
- Research, research, research: When you walk into an interview knowledgeable about the company, the role and recent news in that industry, you show the hiring manager you value their time and that you want to be part of the organization.
- Keep it professional, not personal: Don't let business decorum disappear even if the interview is in a casual setting.
- Practice makes perfect: Nerves are likely to rear their head in an interview, so help calm them ahead of time by practicing.

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Job cuts "unavoidable" at UNB Fredericton

The University of New Brunswick is eliminating nine jobs at its Fredericton campus due to shortfalls in the school's operating budget. Six of the affected positions are in the institution's integrated technology services unit, and the majority are senior-level administration jobs. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Paradigm Shift: The Smartphone

BookReview

One morning over brunch, a friend of mine brought up how much our lives revolve around our BlackBerry.

We reminisced about our difficult lives B.C. (Before Cellular). While it is an incredibly powerful tool that has changed the way we communicate, what's most incredible is the story of the BlackBerry.

BlackBerry
Author: Rod McQueen
Publisher: Key Porter Books
Price: $32.95

Biographer Rod McQueen guides us through the birth of Research In Motion, a company that began with a $15,000 loan from the bank of mom and dad. That is a pretty good return on investment, fast forward to 2010 with the company pulling in over $15 Billion in annual revenue. Compare that to Motorola, which began 50 years before RIM in 1928 and is only a third the size of the new tech giant.

Its hardly an argument that RIM Co-CEOs Jim Balsillie and Mike Lazaridis are beyond smart. Its no wonder they created the Smart Phone market, something they did alone while everyone else tried to play in the crowded cellular phone sand box.

CRAIG LUND /FOR METRO CANADA

Craig Lund, a director with the staffing firm Marketers on Demand, can be reached at craig.lund@marketersondemand.com

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Canada

Trading Places
Ryan Reynolds and Jason Bateman will switch bodies in a new buddy comedy movie. The pair has signed to play a family man and his lazy pal in The Change-Up — written by the scribes behind The Hangover. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment

Dance partner
Dancing with the Stars has imported a new professional dancer from Down Under to team up with Pamela Anderson. Damian Whitewood has joined Dancing's 10th season. PEOPLE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Stooges finally gain entry into rock hall

Iggy Pop was starting to feel like the Susan Lucci of rock 'n' roll.

Iggy Pop

Just as the veteran soap actress believed she might never win a Daytime Emmy, the godfather of punk was certain his groundbreaking band The Stooges wouldn't ever earn a spot in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Well, as it turns out, Lucci got her gold statue on the 19th try. And Iggy and the boys finally are getting their shot to search and destroy at today's induction ceremony, on their eighth attempt.

"At least I won't be nominated anymore," Pop said, laughing. He believed The Stooges never would get into the Rock Hall "right up until the day before somebody called me."

"I kept telling the guys over and over: 'We're not gonna get in, guys.' Yeah. I was absolutely sure of that."

It's hard to say exactly what turned the tide in voter sentiment, but Pop points to three possibilities: the band's long streak of rock hall futility, the January 2009 death of founding member Ron Asheton and ... Madonna.

The Stooges honoured their fellow Michigan native by performing rocking versions of two of her hits — Burning Up and Ray of Light — on the night of the 2008 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

Pop says the gig helped provide some much-needed exposure for a band that wasn't really heard from for 30 years — the result of numerous band breakups and lineup change.

"I thought, 'Well, some of the people there will see that we don't have horns. We're not gonna breathe fire on the tables or anything,"' he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weekend box office

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com:

1. **Alice in Wonderland:** $62 million US
2. **Green Zone:** $14.5 million
3. **She's Out of My League:** $9.6 million
4. **Remember Me:** $8.3 million
5. **Shutter Island:** $8.1 million
6. **Our Family Wedding:** $7.6 million
7. **Avatar:** $6.6 million
8. **Brooklyn's Finest:** $4.3 million
9. **Cop Out:** $4.2 million
10. **The Crazies:** $3.7 million

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Haim death probed

Actor's name found on prescription linked to drug ring

The name of the late Toronto-born actor Corey Haim was found on a fraudulent prescription for a powerful painkiller that authorities said Friday was obtained through a major drug ring.

A funeral for actor Corey Haim will take place in Toronto this week.

California Attorney General Jerry Brown's office said records of the prescription in the name of the former teen heartthrob were found during an investigation of the ring that illegally obtained prescription pads and used the stolen identities of doctors to fill them out.

"Corey Haim's death is yet another tragedy linked to the growing problem of prescription drug abuse," Brown said in a written statement. "This problem is increasingly linked to criminal organizations, like the illegal and massive prescription drug ring under investigation."

Los Angeles County coroner's officials, however, said they have not yet determined what killed the 38-year-old Haim last week. The actor is expected to be buried at a private funeral in Toronto, which could take place as early as today.

State law enforcement authorities said they were investigating the drug ring and how the name of Haim, who battled addiction for years, appeared on the prescription.

Javier Salaiz, an investigator with the state attorney general's office, said authorities have not yet confirmed that Haim actually filled the prescription or if someone was using his name to acquire the prescription.

However, a person familiar with the investigation who spoke on condition of anonymity because the case is ongoing said Haim may have been doctor shopping.

Assistant Chief Coroner Ed Winter said four prescription drug bottles bearing the actor's name were found in the apartment where he collapsed, but all those drugs had been provided by a doctor who had been treating the actor.

The coroner's office has declined to state what medications were discovered, but said no illegal drugs were found.

Winter said no determination had been made about Haim's cause of death, and toxicology tests would not be available for at least a month.

He said he had not been contacted by the attorney general's office.

"It surprises me that Jerry Brown would come out and give a cause of death," he said.

Brown said later in an interview that he didn't know what killed Haim.

The illegal prescription was for the powerful painkiller OxyContin, he said.

"This is a growing and dangerous problem," Brown said.

Christine Gasparac, a spokeswoman for Brown, said the prescription was found through the state's computer database that tracks prescriptions that are filled.

Investigators believe the ring either sells the pads on the street to addicts or to people who then fill out the forms and obtain the drugs for illegal distribution.

Doctors whose names are on the form usually aren't aware that their identity is being used illegally.

Haim's agent, Mark Heaslip, said his client's medications were prescribed by an addiction specialist who was working with the actor. He said he thinks, based on what Haim's mother has told him, the actor may have had an adverse reaction to the medication because he was ill.

"I don't think Corey overdosed, not at all," Heaslip said.

Authorities have said Haim was suffering from flulike symptoms in the days before his death.

Seattle-based Heaslip has served as Haim's agent for 18 months but first met the actor, best known for his roles in the 1980s flicks The Lost Boys and Lucas, in November. He said Haim was poised for a comeback and showed no signs of addiction.

"He's never given me a sign of that," Heaslip said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Funeral costs

- Corey Haim's family started a collection to help pay for a funeral for the former teen star, but it appears they won't have to worry about it. Memorabilia company Startifacts has agreed to cover the cost of the funeral, headstone and transport using profits from Haim memorabilia the company is auctioning off, according to TMZ.

Parton growing Dolly brand

Country music icon Dolly Parton has expanded her business portfolio. She celebrated the grand opening of Dolly Parton's Trinkets and Treasures, in Nashville with a pink ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

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One thumb up on the conversational online print film critic

Socialite
Rea McNamara
metronews.ca/socialite

KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES

Roger Ebert has thrived in the online arena and may have found a way to keep film critics off journalism's endangered species list.

It has been suggested it's time to add yet another title to journalism's endangered species list: The film critic.

As print continues to suffer from dwindling ad revenue and the conundrum about whether to charge for online content, journalists continue to get the pink slip.

Last week, venerable Hollywood trade paper Variety ousted its longtime chief film critic Todd McCarthy. For those of us who go by Rotten Tomatoes' Tomatometer, this may not register a rotten rating. But industry insiders see it as a sign that the critic's printed value has now been eclipsed by the studio-approved Ain't It Cool News-esque internet hype machine.

"If Variety no longer requires its chief film critic, it no longer requires me as a reader," fumed legendary film critic Roger Ebert on his Chicago Sun-Times blog.

While Ebert may gripe over McCarthy's sacking, he's also the rare critic who's evolved beyond his "thumb up" movie ratings. As more web-attuned moviegoers seek blogger opinions and GreenCine Daily website debate, this writer has kept up with @ebertchicago tweets and daily blog entries, showing his fellow critics how to adapt to this new media environment.

This was especially prevalent in the recent Esquire profile by Canadian journalist Chris Jones, who showed how Ebert's online journal became a vehicle for his will to continue reviewing despite losing his ability to speak and eat due to a series of cancer surgeries.

"There is no need to pity me," he wrote on a post-it note to Jones. "Look how happy I am. This has led to an exploring of writing."

Jones reveals how Ebert's candid entries has created a dream audience — readers-turned-commenters whom Ebert regularly engages with. It's led to a rediscovery of Ebert as a brilliant Pulitzer Prize-winning writer.

Shortly after delivering on Oprah his Oscar picks (with his new "Roger Jr." computerized voice), Ebert extended an invitation to the Ebert Club.

It's an attempt at a paid online content model: A $4.99 yearly subscription that includes value-added benefits like access to a private discussion thread and "winnowed" @ebertchicago tweets.

And it might just be the thing that takes the film critic off journalism's endangered species list.

Rea McNamara writes about the on/offline statuses of niches and subcultures. Follow her on Twitter @reeraw

Real-time punditry

• While everybody can be a critic online, there are those using its interactive nature to its advantage. Real-time punditry tweets and the "live blog" have been praised for spiking the ratings of big television events like the Oscars (which scored 41.3 viewers, five million up from the 2009 telecast). Meanwhile, post-Television Without Pity recaps have caught onto the mainstream: More so than ever, must-see TV is critiqued via summarizing recaps augmented by video clips and freeze frames (with satirical touches via photo manipulations and animated GIFs).

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Man pleads no contest in connection to Bloom burglary

Prosecutors say a man has pleaded no contest to receiving a Rolex watch stolen from Orlando Bloom's house during a spate of celebrity burglaries. Jonathan Ajar entered the no contest plea Friday and will be sentenced on April 15. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

That Bieber's so tweet

Canadian teen singer dominates Twitter conversation

Canadian teen heartthrob Justin Bieber is the most talked about person on Twitter, and nearly the most talked about topic, period.

Bieber-mania is growing on Twitter and is creating a deafening crescendo of chatter that is rising above virtually every other conversation on the popular social media site, which sees 50 million tweets posted daily.

Last week, the 16-year-old pop singer from Stratford, Ont., was the No. 1 most-tweeted about topic, according to the tracking website whatthetrend.com, and this week he fell just short of the top spot and settled for second behind a little event called the Oscars.

Bieber has been on Twitter almost a year but it wasn't until January that his popularity growth really started registering, said Ingo Muschenetz of What The Trend.

He started out the year around seventh in the weekly Twitter reports and now is consistently dominating the list of the most talked about people.

"He is very, very popular on Twitter, he ranks No. 1, easy," Muschenetz said.

"He's certainly No. 1 unless something else comes along, like when the earthquake in Haiti happened that took the No. 1 spot for a few weeks.

As of mid-Friday, Bieber was ranked among the Top 140 most popular Twitter users but his numbers of followers are multiplying daily.

He averages about 11,000 new followers every day, which on Friday helped him pass the Twitter accounts of the influential tech blogs TechCrunch and Silicon Alley Insider.

However, it would take months for Bieber to approach the Top 10, an elite company of Twitter users with more three million followers, such as Lady Gaga, John Mayer, Oprah Winfrey, Barack Obama, Ellen DeGeneres, Britney Spears and top dog Ashton Kutcher.

Bieber may be far behind that group with almost 1.37 million followers but he's got a shot at eventually catching them, said Muschenetz.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

GETTY IMAGES

Last week, Canadian pop singer Justin Bieber was the No. 1 most-tweeted about topic, according to whatthetrend.com.

On Twitter

- You can follow Justin Bieber at @justinbieber.

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DioGuardi's dad set to run for Senate

The father of American Idol judge Kara DioGuardi, former Republican congressman Joe DioGuardi, is set to announce he is running for the U.S. Senate seat held by Kirsten Gillibrand. DioGuardi lives with his wife in Ossining, N.Y. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New version of K'naan's Wavin' Flag song goes global

Canada loves him — he's won a Juno, he's been nominated for the Polaris Prize, the nation's critics have praised both of his albums.

But as the buzz around the release of his charity single proved Friday, Toronto rapper K'naan is about to be heard around the world.

Born Keinan Warsame, the soft-spoken Somali-Canadian artist song is about to go global, thanks to two new versions of his song Wavin' Flag.

One is a charity single featuring some of Canada's biggest Canadian artists around, the other a remix that was selected as the official song of soccer's 2010 World Cup in South Africa.

First appearing on the local music scene about a little more than three years ago, this Dusty Foot Philosopher (that's the title of his Juno-winning 2006 album) piqued interest with his incredible back story.

He was born in Mogadishu, but his family fled the Somali civil war in 1991.

He moved to New York before he settled with relatives in Rexdale.

"I grew up partly in Somalia's vicious streets and partly in North American streets," he told the Toronto Star last year. "I never lived in the circles of the goody-goodies. I was a high-school dropout, hung out with thugs." His name means "traveller" in Somali, and his music is helping him live up to it.

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The 'Socalled' film

Documentary on musician debuts on YouTube

The National Film Board of Canada will debut a documentary about Montreal-based musician Socalled on YouTube in the U.S. this week.

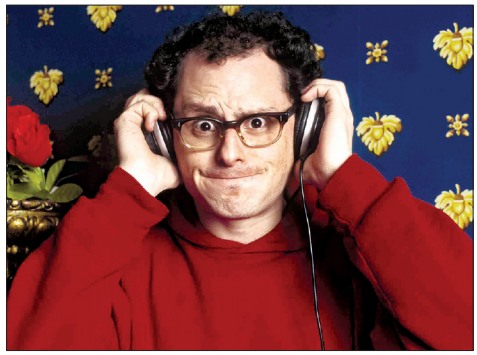
The "Socalled" Movie will be available to Americans on the YouTube Video Rental Service on Tuesday.

That's the same day Socalled — who was born Josh Dolgin in Ottawa — performs at the South By Southwest festival in Austin, Texas.

This is the first time the NFB, which co-produced The "Socalled" Movie with reFrame Films, has made such a deal with YouTube.

The NFB says the collaboration was a perfect fit for this particular movie since Socalled — who fuses music from different cultures and eras — has a strong presence in the U.S. and is a hit on YouTube.

The YouTube Video Rental Service launched at the recent Sundance Film Festival and isn't yet available to Canadians.



TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A documentary about Ottawa-born, Montreal-based musician Socalled, a.k.a. Josh Dolgin, will debut in the U.S. on Tuesday.

The NFB says a Canadian theatrical rollout of The "Socalled" Movie will be announced later this year.

In the past, the NFB has programmed its own YouTube channel and featured some of its animation on YouTube's online screening room.

It's also collaborated with YouTube on an online short-film competition at the Cannes Film Festival. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Leno's first week is a ratings hit

Jay Leno

TELEVISION After a smashing return, Jay Leno appears headed to a battle with David Letterman for late-night television supremacy.

The Nielsen Co. says Leno averaged 5.6 million U.S. viewers last week, his first back at NBC's The Tonight Show following the ill-fated prime time experiment. Letterman had 3.7 million at CBS. Leno took advantage of curiosity over his return and a strong lineup of guests, including Olympic stars and Sarah Palin.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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	211	331	3	GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	House "Black Hole" (N)		24 (HDTV) (N)		Brothers & Sisters (N)		News Hour
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Office	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere V	Omni News:	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Metropia
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	-	-	14	-	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King/Queens	Cold Case
	213	326	15	SUN	George Lopez	The Insider (N)	20/20 (HDTV) Behind the scenes of "The Bachelor." (N)				The Insider	Hitchcock Pres	Becker
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Access H.	How I Met	Engagement	Two/Half Men	Big Bang Th	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		News 4 at 11
	-	385	17	NBC	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Chuck (HDTV) (N)		Trauma "Protocol" (N)		Law & Order (HDTV) (N)		News
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	20/20 (HDTV) Behind the scenes of "The Bachelor." (N)				Castle (HDTV)		News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	Castle (HDTV)		Gossip Girl (HDTV) (N)		Law & Order (HDTV) (N)		A News
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy	Two/Half Men	House "Black Hole" (N)		24 (HDTV) (N)		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	PBS NewsHour	Time Goes By	Visions of Italy: Southern Style			Guido's Orchestra: Live From the Heart of Europe			
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Life Unexpected (N)		Gossip Girl (HDTV) (N)		PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Law & Order: Special Victims		WBZ News (N)	'70s Show	Frasier	Frasier	The Office
	298	653	332	TLA	The Tyra Show		According-Jim	Family Guy	KTLA News	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Life Unexp.
	502	390	26	NW	The Lang & O'Leary Exchange		Connect with Mark Kelley (N)		CBC News: The National		To Be Announced		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow Report (Live)		Biography on CNBC		House of Cards				Mad Money
	405	417	22	net	Red Bull Air Race Preview		Billiards: US Open 9 Ball		Skiing FIS Ski Cross.		Sportsnet Connected		Hockey Centra
	400	400	30	TSN	That's Hockey!	Interruption	World Poker Tour: Season 7		NHL Pregame	NHL Hockey Detroit Red Wings at Calgary Flames.			
	411	457	58	OLN	Ghost Hunters		Destination Truth		Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Ghost Hunters International		Destin. Truth
	417	406	81	SC	NASCAR	NASCAR Hub	Fast Track to Fame (HDTV)		Racing Chef	NASCAR	NASCAR	What's Deal?	Car Crazy
	551	542	25	YTV	iCarly	Scorpion	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	To Be Indie	Prank Patrol
	554	544	45	TEL	*Scooby-Doo! The Mystery Begins* (2009, Comedy)				Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Robot Chicken
	556	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	Suite Life	Sonny-Chance	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
	602	567	27	W	Supernanny		How Clean Is	How Clean	Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Confidential
	570	580	29	MM	Secret Life of American Teen		America's Best Dance Crew		disBAND	disBAND	Love Court	Love Court	UR11
	615	520	31	A&E	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Intervention "Sharon"		Intervention "Amy W."		Hoarders (HDTV)		Paranormal
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Carabinieri		Carabinieri		George Lopez	George Lopez	Lopez Tonight
	571	581	36	MMM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		mmtop10.ca		Behind the Music		Gene Simmons
	575	583	38	CMT	Due South		Amer. Funniest Home Videos		According-Jim	According-Jim	*Take Me Home: The John Denver Story* (2000)		
	616	521	39	SHO	Relic Hunter		*Love Notes* (2007, Drama) Laura Leighton, Antonio Cupo.				Bones (HDTV)		NCIS
	620	523	40	BVO	Ballet Victoria, A Leap of Faith		Baby Ballroom		*Caesar and Cleopatra* (2009, Comedy), Peter Donaldson				Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	Rich Bride Poor Bride		Nearly Dead	Newlywed	Tori & Dean: Home		Love Inc.	Love Inc.	ET Canada
	522	506	43	HIS	(6) Death or Canada		Greatest Tank Battles		Lost Worlds (HDTV)		Shockwave (HDTV)		Tank Battles
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Doug Stanhope: No Refunds		Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	For Rent	Bang, Buck	Home to Flip	Marriage	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes/Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	House-Payne	House-Payne	Monica: Still	Monica: Still	Seinfeld	Name Is Earl	Law & Order
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		*Who's Your Caddy?* ★ (2007, Comedy), Terry Crews				Rip the Runway 2010 (N)		Mo'Nique
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		*Empathy* (2007, Suspense) Stephen Moyer.				Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	Peak Season	Cribs	Cribs	Parent Control	Taking, Stage	Taking, Stage	My Life as Liz	My Life as Liz	MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Re-Vamped		Wipeout (N)		Wipeout (N)		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Prod. Parker
	603	561	56	FOOD	Ricardo	David Rocco	Restaurant Makeover		Kitchen Nightmares		Pitchin' In	Glutton	Restaurant
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Eyes Down	Wait for God	Blue Murder		Unscripted	Archaeologist	Poltergeist
	621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		The View (HDTV) (N)		The Dr. Oz Show (N)		TMZ
	553	546	65	TRE	Backyardigans	Night Garden	Waybuloo	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Bucket-Dinos	Little Bear	Toopy & Binoo	Max & Ruby
	526	507	249	VIVA	Cold Case		Missing "Paper Anniversary"		The Closer "Manhunt"		Cold Case		Mediums
	300	601	301	M1	(6:20) *Son of Rambow*		Sanctuary "Kush"		Spartacus: Blood and Sand		Diary-Call Girl	Diary-Call Girl	Spartacus
	305	612	306	PIX	(6:40) *The Red Violin* ★★★ (1998, Drama)				*The Silence of the Lambs* ★★★★ (1991, Suspense)				*Kevin-North*
	520	146	-	DISC	Daily Planet (N)		MythBusters		Dirty Jobs (N)		Motor City Motors (N)		Daily Planet
	637	-	-	TVLND	Red Green	Red Green	Fantasy Island		Hart to Hart		Andy Griffith	Phil Silvers	Bizarre
	605	-	-	FASH	First Class All the Way		FashionTele	RAW	FT Found Footage		etalk-Young	FashionTele	1st Class Way

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Boyle's burglar caught?
Police have arrested a 16-year-old male in connection with the break-in at Susan Boyle's home in Scotland, BBC News is reporting. The singer got a scare when she arrived home on Jan. 26 to find the uninvited guest. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Jonesing for a Jonas

HAVEN'T YOU LISTENED TO TAYLOR SWIFT'S ALBUM? Demi Lovato has confirmed longstanding rumours she's dating Joe Jonas, calling the Jonas Brothers star "perfect" and "incredible," femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Disney sensations grew close after appearing together in movie-musical Camp Rock in 2008. They sparked rumours of a romance in October when they were spotted on a double date at a Toronto restaurant with Joe's older brother Kevin and his now-wife Danielle Deleasa.

Lovato dismissed reports of a relationship back in November, insisting they "don't have feelings for each other in that way."

But she has now come clean about her romance with Jonas — admitting they are a couple and gushing about their relationship in a new U.S. interview. Access Hollywood's Billy Bush asked, "So you guys went from boyfriend-girlfriend to best friends?"

Lovato said, "No, kind of the opposite."

She added, "Yeah (we are dating), he is my best friend and he is incredible. He's perfect."

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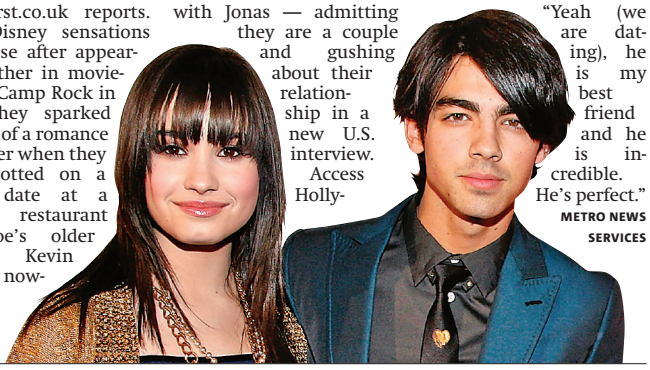


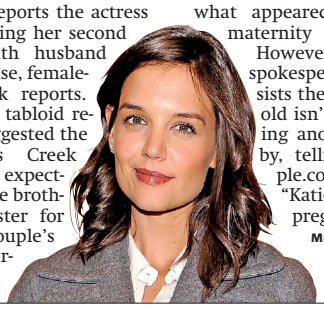
There is no sibling for Suri

SHE'S JUST ROCKING THE EXTREMELY BAGGY CLOTHES TREND. THAT'S A TREND, RIGHT? A representative for Katie Holmes has dismissed reports the actress is expecting her second child with husband Tom Cruise, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Recent tabloid reports suggested the Dawson's Creek star was expecting a little brother or sister for the couple's three-year-old daughter, Suri.

Holmes was seen visiting a doctor's office, and photos of her surfaced with a bloated stomach wearing what appeared to be maternity clothes. However her spokesperson insists the 31-year-old isn't expecting another baby, telling people.com: "Katie is not pregnant."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Her manager has intuition

IT'S TELLING HIM HE'S GOING TO MAKE A LOT OF MONEY OFF OF HER Skeptics, beware: Aiden Chase knows what you're thinking, and it's not just because he's psychic, people.com reports.

The new manager for Heidi Montag accepts and understands that not everybody's onboard with his profession — he's called a "healer and intuitive" — and he's OK with that.

In fact, he's in the OK business.

He helps people feel better about themselves and guide their futures — futures, he says, he can often see.

He also says he has the ability to communicate with spirits, including dead celebrities.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

The kids are tech savvy

SO HE'S AN INTERNATIONAL ACTION MOVIE HERO, NO BIGGIE Matt Damon may be famous around the world, but it isn't that way at home.

"The 11-year-old obviously knows. She hasn't seen all the movies but has seen enough to know that's what I do," he says, according to Hollyscoop.

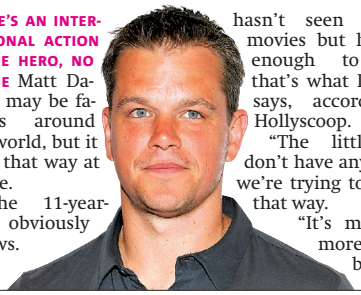
"The little ones don't have any idea — we're trying to keep it that way.

"It's more and more possible now with the prevalence of video cameras and technology, iPhones and BlackBerrys.

"Kids are used to seeing their own images on screens.

"So when they see me on a screen, it kind of makes sense for them, 'Yeah, he's on that TV and I'm on this laptop.'"

METRO WORLD NEWS



A role model for the ages

ESPECIALLY WHEN HER TEETH FALL OUT Jessica Simpson isn't one for dental hygiene, since the singer insists she gets by without it.

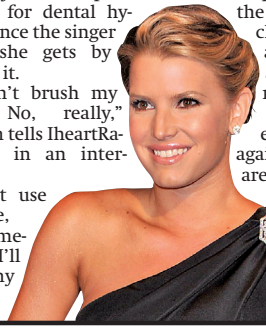
"I don't brush my teeth. No, really," Simpson tells IheartRadio.com in an interview.

"I just use Listerine, and sometimes I'll use my sweater."

Simpson admits to the occasional cleaning, though, and insists that's all her teeth need.

"I do brush every now and again, but my teeth are extremely powerful," she says.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Everyone take a chill pill

BUT TO BE FAIR, A PRECEDENT HAS BEEN SET HERE, LADY Jennifer Aniston insists she isn't dating The Bounty Hunter co-star Gerard Butler, and she finds it fascinating that people always try to link her to her co-stars.

"Gerry is lovely, he's a real nice guy," she says, according to Hollywood Grind.

"But it seems I get linked to all my co-stars. There seems to be a formula, if you make a movie together, then you must be dating in real life.

"I don't know who starts those rumours but I'm learning to ignore them."

Aniston famously dated Vince Vaughn while making and promoting The Break-Up, but split from him soon after.

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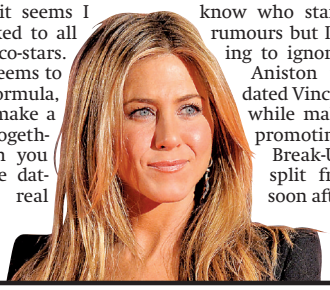

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

KATY PERRY used to get excited by fumigation, **ELIZABETH TAYLOR** is defending Kathy Ireland, and **JONATHAN ROSS** doesn't want to hurt his dogs.

@katyperry
When you were kid did you ever mistake those houses that had termite coverings on them... As the circus came to town? I did.

@DameElizabeth
I heard that some scum magazines, print and internet trashed Kathy Ireland on Oscar Red Carpet night. These rags said, to quote them, "She was either stoned or drunk and looked pregnant" — what???? They must be the ones on drugs.

@wossy
Are sausages bad for dogs ? We have left overs from last night — They love 'em but I heard someone tsk once when I gave a bit to Pickle.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

'Cause breaking up is hard to do

BUT WORKING ON THE SAME SET EVERYDAY IS EVEN HARDER After more than a year of dating happily, Jennifer Love Hewitt and Jamie Kennedy have called it quits, Hewitt's rep confirms to People magazine.

Though no other details were given, sources speculate that Kennedy's days on their series, The Ghost Whisperer, may be numbered, as Hewitt is the star and a producer on the show.

METRO WORLD NEWS

GETTY IMAGES

The Weather Network
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Today Variable 11°/ 2°
Tuesday Mainly sunny 12° / 3°
Wednesday Sunny 14°/ 4°
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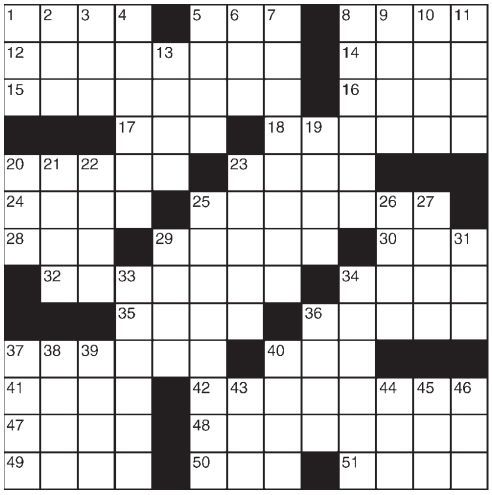
Take Five



ACROSS

1 Odds and —
5 Cigar residue
8 Campus hangout
12 Hawaiian volcano
14 — Minor (constellation)
15 Kathleen of the Obama cabinet
16 Hebrew month
17 Sternward
18 Unexpected
20 Winter garment
23 Dalmatian detail
24 Cause a surfeit
25 Ken of the Obama cabinet
28 — Aviv
29 Felonious monk in "The Da Vinci Code"
30 Ump
32 Hillary of the Obama cabinet
34 Scallopini meat
35 Rotate
36 Private journal
37 Sushi condiment
40 — -relief
41 Bottom of a boat
42 Timothy of the Obama cabinet
47 Needle case
48 Famous aria from "Carmen"
49 Spiritual discipline
50 Bath locale
51 Mormon state

DOWN

1 Type squares
2 Dundee denial
3 Fix the soundtrack
4 Furtive
5 Settled down
6 Old French coin
7 Knows what to do, maybe
8 Watch crystal, maybe
9 Language of Pakistan
10 Pronto, on a memo
11 Blowgun ammo
13 — Romeo (sports car)
19 Feathery neckwear
20 Portion (Abbr.)
21 Guinness or Baldwin
22 Hot dog holder
23 Chic shop
25 Be acceptable
26 Vicinity
27 Posterior
29 Cold-shoulder
31 Aviate
33 Roma's land
34 Hindu preserver god
36 Information
37 Curds' partner
38 Car
39 Hit hard
40 Lettuce variety
43 Water (Fr.)
44 Trawler need
45 Historic time
46 "Go, team!"

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

5					1	9	4	
	4			6		5	1	
1			4					7
				9			8	6
		3				1		
8	7			2				
6					5			4
	8	5		1			2	
	2	7	3					1

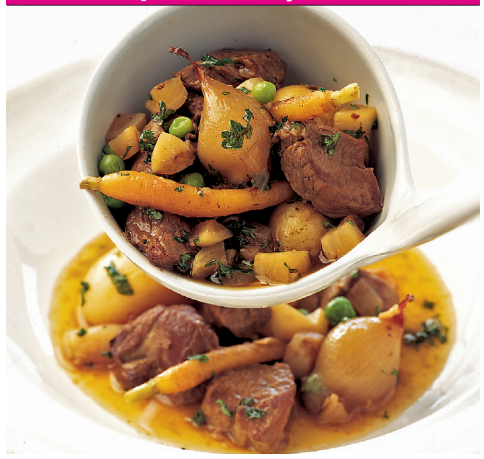
PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

5	4	9	1	7	2	3	8	6
8	2	3	6	5	9	1	4	7
6	1	7	3	8	4	2	5	9
4	8	1	9	6	3	7	2	5
9	7	6	2	4	5	8	3	1
2	3	5	8	1	7	6	9	4
7	9	8	4	3	6	5	1	2
1	6	4	5	2	8	9	7	3
3	5	2	7	9	1	4	6	8

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day



Irish Stew

INGREDIENTS:

2 tsp olive oil
1 large onion, chopped
1 garlic clove, finely chopped
500 g lean boneless leg of lamb, trimmed and cut into cubes
1/2 cup dry white wine
2 cups reduced-sodium chicken broth
1 bay leaf
1 sprig fresh thyme
1 kg baby new potatoes, scrubbed
250 g baby carrots
1 cup peeled pearl onions
1 small turnip, diced
1 cup frozen peas
2 tbsp chopped parsley
Salt and pepper.

METHOD:

11. Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C). Heat oil in large flameproof casserole, add chopped onion and garlic and cook, stirring, until softened, 5 minutes. Add lamb and cook until browned on all sides, 5 minutes.

2. Add wine, broth, bay leaf, thyme, potatoes, carrots and pearl onions. Season with salt and pepper. Bring to boil, then cover and transfer to oven. Cook 1 hour.

3. Add turnip and stir. Cover again and continue cooking until meat and vegetables are tender, 30 to 45 minutes, adding peas 10 minutes before end of cooking time.

4. Add parsley and stir well. Taste and season again if needed. Serve hot.

SERVES 6

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Your nerves may be a bit on edge today but it won't be long before the crisis passes. Eventually will wonder how you managed to get so worked up over nothing.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
What you want you cannot have and what you have you don't really want. The grass isn't always greener on the other side of the fence.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
We all have big ideas but some big ideas are best left on the drawing board. Today there is a smaller idea that will bring you all the rewards you desire.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
What catches your eye today may look like the answer to your prayers. By all means start something new but make sure you are able to finish it.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
Today's new moon in the wealth area of your chart means you need to get your hands on some serious money.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A new moon in your opposite sign of Pisces suggests that your most important relationship will reach new levels of understanding over the next 24 hours.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Something to do with your working routine is about to be change but it won't be that bad. Why? Because you know how to adapt.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Whatever your desires and your fantasies may be you are encouraged to indulge them to the full today. Live for the moment.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
You are smart enough to realize there are times when it is necessary to let others win, and this appears to be one of them.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Today's new moon will endow you with all the chat and charm you need to win new friends and influence people.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
The planets are sending you this important message: what you took for granted in the past cannot be taken for granted in the future.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
A new moon in your birth sign makes this the perfect day to start being that person you always wanted to be. You WILL succeed now.

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